

Obituary

Paul Joseph Edgerton

August 10, 1937 – July 29, 2018

A wonderful, gentle soul gently soared to heaven. Paul Joseph Edgerton passed away July 29, 2018. He was born to Charles and Helen Hartwig Edgerton August 10, 1937, in Florence, Arizona. Paul graduated from North Phoenix High School, received his Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Biology from University of Arizona and did extensive graduate work at the University of Idaho, where he met his future wife, Susan Cox.

Paul and Sue married in September of 1960 and began their life adventure. Paul worked as a research ecologist for the Pacific Northwest Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service in La Grande and directed research at the Forestry Sciences Lab in Wenatchee, Washington. He also worked as the Ecologist for Region 9 of the U.S. Forest Service, based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Paul and Sue spent many years back packing and river rafting with their family, especially when they lived in La Grande. After retirement, they enjoyed traveling and visiting several countries. They especially enjoyed visiting Mexico and also spending a few winter months in Arizona.

He and Sue retired to Friday Harbor, Washington, where he became an orchardist and master gardener, and sold fruit, vegetables and flowers at the San Juan Island Farmers' Market for 10 years. They moved to Sisters in 2002, and Paul soon became one of the first tour leaders for the Deschutes Land Trust, teaching many people about the ecology of plants and animals of our region as



well as his love for nature. He was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Land Trust in 2017. There is a bench in his honor at the Metolius Preserve.

He is survived by his wife, Sue, and their four children: Patricia Carrell (Gerald) of Maple Valley, Washington; David Edgerton (Terrence Wagner) of Seattle, Washington; Michael Edgerton (Jenny) of Bend; and Kelly Richards (Dan) of Bothell, Washington. Also surviving him are seven beloved grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was extremely proud of all his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, his sister, Dorothy Simms, and his niece, Lorrie Simms.

Paul was loved by his family and admired in his field of Wildlife Biology and Ecology and forest succession after fire. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

A celebration of his life will be held at a later date: donations to the Deschutes Land Trust can be made in his memory.

Superheated steam is weed killer

By George Plaven
Capital Press

SALEM (AP) — The Steam Weeder looks like an old-time vacuum cleaner and sounds like an espresso machine, with a long hose and nozzle attached to a tractor-mounted boiler heating steam to 250 degrees.

Erik Augerson, a graduate research assistant for Oregon State University, demonstrated how the technology works July 18 during Blueberry Field Day at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center, steaming along rows of blueberries to control field bindweed.

As a weed management tool, Augerson said the Steam Weeder shows promise, especially for organic growers. Superheated steam kills weeds by bursting plant cells, without damaging mulch or other farm infrastructure, as flame weeding does.

Augerson, who is earning his master's degree from OSU in horticulture, is part of a research project trying to develop a season-long organic weed management program for small berry growers, combining steam with other mechanical treatments and certified organic sprays.

"The organic berry industry in Oregon is having a lot

of trouble determining what the best and most cost-effective form of weed management is for their systems," Augerson told the *Capital Press*. "We're just trying to increase the growers' toolbox."

The project is supported by a \$500,000 grant from the Organic Transitions Program through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Additional funding comes from the OSU Agriculture Research Foundation and Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research.

The Steam Weeder is manufactured by Weedtechnics, a company based near Sydney, Australia. Jeremy Winer, managing director of Weedtechnics, was also on hand at the field day to meet with growers and answer questions about the product, which sprays at a rate of 2.5 gallons per minute and penetrates 1 inch deep into the ground.

"It's not actually boiling, but it's superheated," Winer explained. "It explodes the (weed) cells."

Augerson said OSU purchased the Steam Weeder over the winter and began field trials about a month and a half ago. While they are still collecting data, he said the technology could be a solid option for organic

growers — depending on the cost analysis.

"We know that it can kill weeds, and that it works from a management standpoint," Augerson said. "I think it has a lot of promise."

**"We know that it can kill weeds, and that it works from a management standpoint. I think it has a lot of promise."
— Erik Augerson**

Depending on the size and model, Steam Weeder can cost between \$16,000 and \$30,000, a steep price tag for small growers. But Augerson said the value lies in decreased need for manual labor controlling weeds, allowing farms to put their workers to better use.

"There is a lack of farm labor, and it is decreasing," Augerson said. "We want to make it so farmers can utilize their labor in different ways."

Augerson said they will need at least two years of data before they can start writing a comprehensive, full-season weed management program for organic berries.

Schedule online!

Sarah Conroy, Chiropractor

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF
Call 541-588-2213

392 E. Main Ave.
SistersChiropractor.com

Located within Bigfoot Wellness
Shena Fields LMT#7439
Harmony Tracy LMT# 21211

SHE SOARS PSYCHIATRY

Holistic Mental Health Solutions
Medication Management
Counseling • Functional Medicine

Audry Van Houweling
PMHNP-BC

Quick and Affordable Help

541-595-8337 • www.shesoarspsych.com
102 E. Main Ave., Downtown Sisters

Smile, Sisters!

We're committed to your dental health!

Exceptional Health, Prevention & Aesthetics For Your Family!

Trevor Frideres D.M.D.
p 541-549-9486 / 541-549-9110
410 E. Cascade Ave. ■ P.O. Box 1027 ■ Sisters
Hours: Mon., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tues.-Wed., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thurs., 7 a.m.-3 p.m.

SISTERS DENTAL

FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in Sisters

Saturday, August 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Sisters Recycling Center
328 W. Sisters Park Dr.

Household items accepted will include:

- Rechargeable batteries
- Fuels & thinners
- Pool & spa chemicals
- Fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides
- Aerosols
- Mercury items
- Fluorescent light bulbs/tubes
- Oil filters & antifreeze
- Paints & stains
- Cleaning products & poisons
- Automotive chemicals
- Propane tanks

Items NOT accepted: BUSINESS-GENERATED HAZARDOUS WASTE, explosives, fireworks, ammunition, gas cylinders, radioactive and medical waste.

Deschutes County encourages persons with disabilities to participate in all programs and activities. This event/location is accessible to people with disabilities. If you need accommodations to make participation possible, or to request this information in an alternate format please contact:

Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste
(541) 317-3163 www.deschutes.org/sw

DESCHUTES COUNTY